

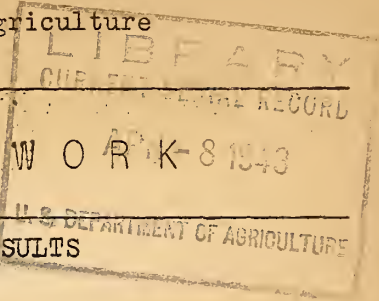
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Extension Service - United States Department of Agriculture



W A R T I M E E X T E N S I O N . W O R K - 8 1943

SUMMARY OF EXTENSION WORK, TECHNIQUES, AND RESULTS BASED ON STATE REPORTS

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Reports this week from State Extension Services stress production, Victory Gardens, women farm workers, and progress of the neighborhood leader system.

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CONNECTICUT
January 18, 1943

Food for Freedom.— National program tied in closely with State efforts to aid agricultural production. Governor made radio broadcast on Farm Mobilization Day and had conference with State agricultural leaders. State training school held. County agents will hold schools for community committeemen. Extension publications for campaign include questionnaire forms for obtaining information from farmers; leaflet outlining campaign; guide to production adjustments; handbook for community committeemen in making farm contacts.

Wartime living.— "Jobs for the Month" leaflet for January distributed. Jobs listed: (1) Planning year's farm production, (2) buying baby chicks, (3) choosing vegetable varieties and planning garden, (4) stretching meat supply with substitutes. Circular on variety meats in press.

Victory Gardens.— State garden conference adopted following policy: Experienced gardeners continue home gardens; inexperienced seek reliable guidance; group gardens be under experienced direction; knowing how to prepare and conserve garden produce essential. Organization directed by State Defense Council; Extension responsible for technical information. Preparing bulletin for beginners.

Home food supply.— State conference of interested agencies will outline policy on home and community food preservation. Volunteer neighborhood canning leaders report 3,088,472 quarts food canned by women working with Extension Service in 1942. Program expanded in 1943

Women farm workers.— Practical training for women farm workers to start February 15 at University, covering dairying, poultry, fruits and vegetables, dairy plant operation. Length to depend on individual aptitudes -- 10 days to 3 weeks. Placement to be through USES, women agreeing in writing to stay on job 3 months; will be visited at intervals after they are on the job.

Summary No. 42
February 6, 1943

Farm machinery.- Emphasis placed on ordering repair parts, training county agents, and through them the farmers in repair of machines. Cooperative use of machinery urged.

DELAWARE

January 1, 1943

Production goals.- Preliminary State goals being revised. State report on 1943 goals presented at regional meeting, and county goals prepared for war board and extension workers. Informational material ready on maximum farm production.

Extension Volunteers.- State subproject plan of work for Extension Volunteers prepared. Some of larger neighborhoods will be divided into smaller groups. Organization will be completed by February 15.

County agent activities.- A typical county agent reports that 65 percent of telephone calls and 55 percent of farm visits during December related to farm transportation, machinery rationing, building priorities, farm labor deferment, farm machinery repair classes, feed shortage, coal shortage, OPA hearings. 4-H Club and home demonstration agents centering efforts on food production and utilization, clothing and health programs.

Information.- 2,500 copies Wartime Fertilizer Recommendations distributed.

HAWAII

January 16, 1943

Crop estimates.- Crop-estimating scope broadened to include field crops, beef cattle, dairy cows, swine, poultry, and additional fruits and nuts. Monthly Agricultural Outlook makes complete showing of current locally produced food and feed.

Dairy production.- Investigating reasons for variations in average daily milk production per cow at different dairies to determine whether certain dairies require additional replacements from mainland.

Neighborhood leaders.- Leaders being developed in districts that have no organized adult work. Training in use and preparation of dried eggs given to leaders.

Victory Gardens.- Home garden contests being held many counties. Monthly exhibits of home-grown produce will be followed by spring garden show. Plans also provide for demonstration gardens, nursery for fruit and vegetable seedlings, variety testing garden, and program for visiting home gardeners after working hours and in their gardens.

On Oahu, demonstrations given on proper grading of vegetables to meet requirements of revised ceiling price schedule.

Wise spending and conservation.- Campaign conducted among club members, neighborhood leaders, and homemakers on spending less, buying only what one needs, and putting more money into bonds and stamps. Circular, "Brakes on Spending," distributed to all leaders. Homemakers urged to take care of what they have and assisted in methods of caring for equipment, utensils, household articles, clothing.

Home food supply.- Agent on Maui reports 700 pounds surplus tomatoes put up as tomato juice or canned by Club members in one week. Molokai housewives assisted in converting home-grown peanuts into peanut butter.

KENTUCKY

January 15, 1943

Food production.- To make "America the Pantry of Democracy," series of group conferences of county agents covered entire State in a week. Supervisors and specialists recommended specific things to do to aid farm people in reaching goals. Agents returned to counties ready to lay carefully outlined farm mobilization programs before county boards.

Farmers are prepared for increased production, with soil in good condition, livestock numbers largest in history, and large reserves of grains and other feeds. Herds and flocks can be increased to meet war needs. Estimated corn production in 1942: 82,000,000 bushels — 18,000,000 above normal.

4-H Clubs.- Logan County club members purchased \$4,257 bonds and stamps, produced 6,150 chickens, 75,000 pounds milk, 102,000 pounds pork, 2,650 bushels corn, made 868 garments, prepared 39,320 meals using Victory Garden products, canned 7,125 quarts fruits, vegetables, meats, raised 25,000 pounds tobacco, and collected 5,000 pounds rubber and 325,000 pounds scrap metal. 4,274 pounds castor beans produced by 148 Jefferson County members to be planted for oil production.

LOUISIANA

February 1, 1943

Neighborhood leaders.- Special campaign to complete organization neighborhood leader groups. 20,000 leaders enrolled up to January 15.

Dehydrating eggs.- Plans completed for dehydrating plant to provide additional market for south Louisiana farmers. Capacity: 360,000 eggs a day. Entire output to be used for armed forces abroad and for lend-lease shipments.

Victory Gardens.- In addition to 98 percent of Louisiana farms having home gardens in 1942, every urban family with available space will be urged to grow a garden in 1943. Garden calendar for growers issued by extension home garden specialist.

Fruits and vegetables.- Marketing specialists, distributors, railway and other agricultural agents met in conference on methods of handling food and vegetable crops to insure adequate distribution. Indications strawberry crop will approximate that of 1942, when returns to growers reached \$6,000,000. Purchases for lend-lease shipments expected to equal those of last year.

Salvage.- Through 4-H clubs and neighborhood leaders, campaign has for objective a scrap pile on every farm; emphasis on top-grade quality.

Rat control.- Newspapers throughout State published appeal of Extension Service to halt inroads of rats on food and feed supplies and damage to materials and buildings. Farmers urged to use traps in solving simple rat problems, and to organize for concerted campaign under Federal rodent control auspices in complicated cases.

4-H Clubs.- Lafourche Parish 4-H Club boy, chosen as representing high type of business and practical ability in corn production, produced 60 bushels high-grade corn to acre by following extension methods. He made net profit of \$19.70 per acre and invested earnings in war bonds. 4-H boys and girls 35 parishes have formed dairy calf clubs.

NEW YORK
January 25, 1943

Nutrition.- Nutrition assuming important place in State and county home demonstration programs. 703 nutrition classes with attendance of 12,790 held during month. Meat alternates, meat extenders, saving fat and other foods in home kitchen, packing nutritious lunches, under discussion all counties. 47 news letters on nutrition distributed to 32,000 homemakers; 200 news articles prepared by home demonstration agents. Assistance given other agencies - nutrition committees, Red Cross, Civilian Mobilization, and PTA - in 237 meetings with attendance 4,676 homemakers.

Household economics.- A review of present economic situation and its relationship to homemaking; and wise use and care of household equipment given major emphasis at training school held at college for home demonstration and 4-H agents, and specialists and State leaders, three days in January.

War production training program.- Cooperating with State department education in development of course in food production and preservation as part of rural war production training program in schools. In counties, extension agents will work with homemaking teachers in obtaining well-trained local leaders to assist in teaching.

Farm machinery.- Special emphasis being placed on care and operation of electric motors and use of overload protective devices.

NORTH DAKOTA
January 23, 1943

Neighborhood leader training.- 20-page printed bulletin being distributed at neighborhood leader training meetings to serve as guide to increasing 1943 production.

Farm machinery.- Cooperating with State war board in setting up farm machinery rationing quotas and distributing information on labor-saving machinery.

Russian seed relief.- Extension took lead in organizing Russian seed relief campaign. County agents serve as chairmen of temporary local committees. Four counties contributed over \$1,000 each and State total will reach \$18,000. Extension handled all publicity through press and radio.

Mobilization day.- Cooperated with USDA war boards in Mobilization Day educational work at State, district, and subdistrict meetings and provided special radio programs, news stories, etc.

Sheep production.- With representatives of a dozen groups including farm organizations, railroad agents, agricultural agencies, and stockyard companies, Extension developed plans for over 100 producer meetings to give timely information on care and management of ewes and lambs. Production of shearling pelts and prevention of nodular worms will be emphasized.

Soil conservation.- Prepared and distributed literature on simple conservation practices recommended by subcommittee of State USDA war board.

PENNSYLVANIA
February 1, 1943

Farm machinery.- Farm machinery care, repair, and adjustment program for 1943 launched. 30 county agents and assistants at college for 2-day school, working on mowers, binders, combines, etc. Prepared to do work in own counties and assist in nearby counties. Series of circular letters planned to give information on care of some common farm machines.

Sewing machines.- Care, repair, and adjustment of sewing machines is a program innovation this year because of urgent need for clothing care, repair, and remodeling. Agricultural engineering and clothing specialists are co-operating with county home economics workers.

Victory Gardens.- Vegetable gardening is using as a slogan, "An adequate garden for a Victory Garden in 1943." There will be thousands of new gardens this year. Work is under direction of councils of defense. Extension supplies information.

4-H Clubs.- Special effort being made to increase enrollment in livestock production, vegetable, bee, poultry, dairy calf, clothing, and canning clubs. Also urging increase in unit size of club work.

Farm labor.- County agents working in harmony with employment agencies on farm labor situation. One agent reported, "Three men were placed this week by farm placement authorities. They supplied the men; I supplied the information on those in need of men."

PUERTO RICO
January 1, 1943

Cotton leaf worm control.- All agents on southern coast assisting farmers in control of cotton leaf worm.

Fertilizer.- Farmers helped throughout Island in filling applications to obtain fertilizer for food crops and tobacco.

Information.- Plans made to conduct weekly farm page in newspaper, with cooperation USDA war board agencies. Educational films projected in 13 communities with total attendance 3,719. Twelve radio programs broadcast.

WYOMING
February 1, 1943

Farm mobilization.- All agents gave active support to county war boards in planning and carrying out Farm Mobilization Day. Representative members State staff visited counties and took part in day's program. Special programs served to dramatize war's food demands and to make farm people conscious of need for fullest cooperation. Two-day training schools held all counties to prepare community committeemen for farm-to-farm canvass soon to start. Food-for-freedom stories sent to daily and weekly papers.

Point rationing.- Material on point rationing prepared for neighborhood leaders. Demonstrations on meal planning under point rationing system, stressing necessity for knowing food values, to be given April and May. Topics: "Comparative Values in Buying" and "Food Preparation".

Share-the-meat.- Circulars, "Ways To Share the Meat" and "Variety Meats," prepared for rural women.

Clothing conservation.- Clothing conservation emphasized in counties in demonstrations on streamlined mending and remodeling.

Machinery and equipment.- Due to scarcity of men, women are asking help in learning to repair washing machines and cream separators. Fix-it and repair demonstrations scheduled for counties in March. Illustrated circular on home-made poultry equipment being prepared by poultry specialist for distribution.

Farm home accounts.- Big demand for training in keeping home accounts which will assist in income tax report. New book, "Ranch or Farm Home Account Book," requested in large numbers.

Annual extension conference.- Prominent feature of conference was use of workshop method by groups of workers in studying immediate problems. Theme of conference: "Preparation for Wartime Needs." Special topics: Training neighborhood leaders; correlation of USDA agencies for wartime work; wartime adjustments in club work; food production and conservation for war effort.